

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/761,456

Examiner

Jean W. Désir

Applicant(s)

CIARDI, JOHN JOSEPH

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 18, line 1, after "claim", "1" has been replaced with --12--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or would not have rendered obvious:

A) An apparatus for frequency and phase locking a clock signal to an incoming video signal, such as claimed in claims 1-11, the apparatus has: a numerically controlled oscillator clocked by the system clock for generating a phase lock signal for locking to the incoming video signal; a logic unit for sensing a static phase offset magnitude from an ideal 90° phase offset between the digitized color sub-carrier burst component and the numerically controlled oscillator output signal and for generating a compensating offset in accordance with the static phase offset signal for input to the system clock to drive the static offset to zero; and a color frame logic circuit for detecting

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phase alignment between a sync edge and the color sub-carrier burst component for determining the composite video input color frame sequence and for generating at least one pulse for resetting the numerically controlled oscillator.

B) A method for frequency and phase locking a clock signal to an incoming video signal, such as claimed in claims 12-18, the method: generating a phase lock signal for locking to the incoming video signal; sensing a static phase offset magnitude from an ideal 90° phase offset between the digitized color sub-carrier burst component and the phase lock signal; and generating a compensating offset in accordance with the static phase offset signal for input to the system clock to drive the static offset to zero.

C) An apparatus for frequency and phase locking a clock signal to an incoming video signal, such as claimed in claims 19-22, the apparatus has: a numerically controlled oscillator clocked by the system clock for generating a phase lock signal for locking to the incoming video signal; a logic unit for sensing a static phase offset magnitude from an ideal 90° phase offset between the digitized color sub-carrier burst component and the numerically controlled oscillator output signal and for generating a compensating offset in accordance with the static phase offset signal for input to the system clock to drive the static offset to zero; and a counter block for counting pixels, lines and color frames in the incoming video signal to control a transition among normal operating mode at which the system clock signal is frequency and phase locked to the incoming video signal, a flywheel mode at which temporary losses of the incoming video signal are ignored and the system clock is held at a last correction mode, and free-running operation at which the system clock is forced to a calibrated value.

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The closest prior art, Srivastava (US 5,184,091) and Harwood (US 4,611,240) disclosed conventional system that included phase locked loop and performed static phase error correction, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the present invention obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean W. Désir whose telephone number is (571) 272 7344. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4/9 - First Friday Off:

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272 7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JWD
May. 17, 07



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER